

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Attorney Docket No.: RTS-0169 RECEIVED  
Inventors: Ward et al. MAY 23 2002  
Serial No.: 09/676,436 TECH CENTER 1600/200  
Filing Date: September 29, 2000  
Examiner: Karen Lacourciere  
Group Art Unit: 1635  
Title: Antisense Modulation of MEKK4 Expression

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On May 23, 2002

Jane Massey Licata  
Jane Massey Licata Registration No. 32,257

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claim 1 is being amended and claim 3 canceled to facilitate the search and examination of this invention.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 3.

Please amend the claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding MEKK4 (SEQ ID NO:3), wherein